

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 503 without my signature.

California's fiscal crisis required tough choices in our state budget. One of the most difficult choices was to eliminate funding for the Department of Public Health's domestic violence program. Since that Department no longer receives funding for this program, extending the sunset date for the advisory committee is also unnecessary.

I am, however, signing Senate Bill 273 to extend the advisory council to the California Emergency Management Agency because that program will continue to provide assistance to the victims of domestic violence.

While I regret returning this bill without my signature, our fiscal situation compels the elimination of this statutory provision.

Sincerely,

Arnold Schwarzenegger